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PROGRAM ABC World News Tonight STATION WJLA TV  
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DATE April 13, 1982 7:00 PM CITY Washington DC

SUBJECT Soviet Spies in the U.S.

MAX ROBINSON: Since January, customs agents around the country have seized more than \$15 million worth of high-technology equipment illegally headed for the Soviet bloc. Those seizures, reported today, are part of a new enforcement program called "Operation Exodus."

But actual equipment isn't the only thing Soviet agents are after. Much of the time the name of the game is classified information. Tonight part two of our Special Assignment report on how soviet agents steal American secrets, and what's being done to stop them.

JOHN MARTIN: This is the great American marketplace of ideas, the convention. Thousands of executives and engineers sharing information, asking questions, answering, and exchanging names and ideas.

One year at this engineering trade show the man asking questions was a Soviet KGB agent.

PAUL SMITH: He was very much interested in beryllium. It's used in nuclear warheads, guidance equipment. Almost every application for beryllium is a classified application.

MARTIN: Paul Smith was an engineer working in classified areas. At first he refused to talk, but when the agent called back six months later he agreed to meet here for lunch.

SMITH: He said, "Do you make enough money? With the family that you have, could you use some more money?"

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REPRESENTATIVE GORE: We don't want to even take the first step along the road that has made Soviet science so pitiful.

MARTIN: So if, as the White House insists, there is more spying now, perhaps the best defense is the cooperation of men like Paul Smith, aware of the threat and ready to help the government expose it.